

making the demoralization of its armies dependent upon such contingencies.

6. Concerning the despatch of a special envoy to St. Petersburg to treat on the question of disarmament, the Imperial government, which would have no reason to refuse an act of courtesy reciprocity required by diplomatic usages, perceives no connection between this act of international courtesy and a disarmament which there was no plausible motive for delaying and which might be carried into effect by a single telegraphic order.

DECLINING THIS RESPONSIBILITY.

In communicating the preceding declarations to the signatory Cabinets, the Sublime Porte begs the latter to take cognizance thereof, to appreciate the spirit which has dictated them and to be good enough to attach thereto the importance to which they are entitled in the present state of things, the danger of which cannot be too earnestly insisted upon by the Imperial government and for which it formally declines all responsibility.

REFRESHING THEIR MEMORIES.

The concluding and most emphatic section of the note brings back to the eyes of the Powers the Treaty of Paris, over which the protocol rough-shod. The portion of that document to which especial reference is made is the latter part of article 9, which says:—"It is well understood that it is the firm promise of amelioration of the condition of Turkish subjects, without distinction of religion or race, could not give the right, in any case, to the aforenamed Powers to interfere either collectively or separately in the relations of His Majesty the Sultan with his subjects, nor in the interior administration of his Empire." Of course the contracting Powers subscribed to this as nearly with a knowing wink as it is possible to imagine on such an august occasion, but Turkey takes it very seriously, as will be seen hereafter:—

Maintaining, with other friendly States, relations regulated by international law and treaties, Turkey cannot allow foreign agents or representatives charged to protect the interests of their compatriots to have any mission of official supervision. The Imperial government in fact is not aware how it can have deserved so ill of justice and civilization as to see itself placed in a humiliating position without example in the world. The Treaty of Paris gave an explicit sanction to the principle of non-interference. This treaty, which binds together the Powers who participated in it, as well as Turkey, cannot be abolished by a protocol in which Turkey has had no share, and if Turkey appeals to the stipulation of the Treaty of Paris it is not that that treaty has created in her favor any rights which she would not possess without it, but rather for the purpose of calling attention to the grave reasons which, in the interests of the general peace of Europe, induced the Powers twenty years ago to place the recognition of the inviolability of this Empire's right to sovereignty under the guarantee of a collective promise.

AN EMPHATIC PROTEST.

With regard to the clause which, in case of non-execution of the promised reforms, would seek to confer upon the Powers the right of recurring to ulterior measures, the Imperial government perceives therein a fresh attack upon its dignity and its rights; a measure of intimidation calculated to deprive its acts of any merit of spontaneity and a source of grave complications, both in the present and the future. No consideration, therefore, can arrest the government in its determination to protest against the views enunciated in the protocol of the 31st of March, and to treat it, as far as Turkey is concerned, as destitute of all equity, and consequently also of all obligatory character. Exposed to hostile suggestions, to unmerited suspicion and to violations of international law, Turkey feels that she is now contending for her existence.

THE PROTOCOL FURNISHES.

Strong in the justice of her cause, and trusting in God, she determines to ignore what has been decided without her and against her, resolved to retain in the world the place which Providence has destined for her. In this regard she will not cease to encounter the attacks directed against her with the general principles of public right and the authority of a great European act, which pledges the honor of the Powers that signed the protocol of the 31st of March—a document which, in her eyes, has no legal claim to exact compliance. She appeals to the conscience of the Cabinets which she has a right to consider animated toward her by the same sentiments of elevated equity and friendship as in the past. Immediate and simultaneous disarmament would be the only efficacious means of averting the dangers by which the general peace is threatened.

The reply which the Imperial government has made above to the declaration of the Ambassador of Russia furnished the Powers with suitable elements for bringing about this result, which they most assuredly will not seek to obtain by persisting in imposing upon the Ottoman Empire sacrifices of rights and honor to which it will not consent.

AUSTRIA AND THE WAR.

Our Vienna correspondent telegraphs that Austria is resolved, if necessary demands, to localize the war by the armed occupation of Bosnia. To that end Kaiser Franz Joseph has ordered the mobilization of five army corps.

The Austrian credit action have fallen twenty per cent in ten days.

WHAT RUSSIA MUST HAVE TO WIN.

With reference to what guarantees Russia must have before dreaming of success in war against Turkey, a correspondent from Pera says:—

Respecting war opinion is divided. That Russia will ever be so rash as to attack Turkey without being sure of the neutrality of Austria and Germany seems to many impossible. Neither is it clear, especially after Prince Bismarck's resumption of office, how Russia can ever have a firm reliance on that neutrality. On the other hand, no one supposes that Turkey will begin hostilities, so we are at a deadlock. Before the middle of the end of May those in whose hands are for this moment the destinies of mankind—the Czar and Prince Bismarck—can make up their minds. In order to occupy the Danube Russia must reckon with Germany. Berlin. The present position is that if war breaks out the result must be the extension of the Russian Empire to the Danube, the Bosphorus, the Taurus Mountains and the Euphrates and the amalgamation of 100,000,000 men of the Slavonic race, can Germany or any European State look on and acquiesce in such a consummation?

MOLTER ON THE TURKISH SOLDIERS.

Count von Molter in conversation this evening at the Reichstag strongly doubted that the Russians would gain any easy victory in the event of war, and he gave great praise to the efficiency of the Turkish soldiers.

ON THE DANCE.

A Vienna despatch states that the *New Free Press* this evening says the Danube Steamboat Company have received information that the Turks have commenced throwing a bridge over the Danube, at Kalafat.

ABDUL KERIM, THE TURKISH GENERALISSIMO, has started for Shumla to assume command of the army of the Danube.

TURKEY AND MONTENEGRO.

A Vienna despatch says although preparations for hostilities have been made by Turkey and Montenegro the latter will remain on the defensive unless the Turks attempt to provision Nicies, but the Turks have just provisioned that place. There is no desire on either side to precipitate matters. The conflict with the Miridites is a fresh difficulty for the Turks. Now that the mischief is done it matters little that Dervish Pacha is transferred to Salonica and that Ali Sahib succeeds him. The quarrel with the Miridites is owing to their refusal to furnish the usual contingent for the war against Montenegro.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PORT AND MONTENEGRO

are broken off. The Russian Consul General, M. Jonin, left St. Petersburg to-day with instructions for the Montenegrin government.

THE MIRIDITES RISING.

A despatch from Cetinje says the rising of the Miridites determines the attitude of the whole Catholic Albanian population. The first result of a renewal of hostilities with Montenegro would possibly be the cutting off of Podgoritz from its base of supplies at Scutari, compelling the city to surrender and by extending operations in connection with the Miridites compel the Turks to extend their line of defensive operations and weaken their force. The Turks only have 4,000 effective force here, which must be quadrupled to hold Podgoritz and the only road between their positions and lake transportation.

BOSNIA ABLEAZE.

A Belgrade despatch to the *Times* states that commerce and manufacture in Bosnia are prostrated by the enforced circulation of paper currency. The insurrectionary bands are continually receiving accessions. Troops and artillery are going in all directions. Warlike preparations continue. The government is demanding money and supplies from the Christians, and they are being drafted into the army and sent to Asia, in order, the Bosnians claim, to diminish the rebel population in case the insurrection spreads. In the Bosnian capital typhus fever is raging and many Turks are dying of the disease.

WHERE THE FIRST GREAT BLOW WILL FALL.

Thus on every side the fires of war are lighting. Although the Czar will join the European army, it is likely that the first great blow will be struck on the Asiatic side, where Turkey is weakest. From St. Petersburg it is stated that war is regarded in official circles as inevitable, but Russian military measures do not indicate an immediate opening of the campaign.

Prince Tcherkassy, who is mentioned as the future organizer of Bulgaria, leaves St. Petersburg to-morrow for Kischineff. Persia has notified the Porte of her claims to Bagdad.

BISMARCK IN SCOTLAND.

The sensation caused by the Bismarck episode has almost subsided. A curious story comes from Strathglass, the stronghold of Catholicism in the Scottish Highlands, where the Chancellor's rumored retirement was hailed with joy by three families of Macs, all farmers, who proceeded to burn Bismarck in effigy.

THE MUSICAL OUTLOOK.

The musical season is yet a thing of the future. The programme for Wagner's concerts is published. They will consist of long selections, in many instances comprising entire acts, promising to weary the audiences who go to hear them. The difficulty in finding musicians for the concerts is very great, and third rate provincials have been accepted. A reason for this is found in the fact that the Philharmonic and the two mammoth Italian opera companies have absorbed all the best talent. For the present the Wagner announcements create comparatively little excitement, whereas nearly all the tickets for Rubenstein's six concerts at St. James' Hall, in May, have been sold in advance. Rubenstein nets \$2,000 (\$40,000) during the present financial season. It is quite possible Carl Rosa finds that Rubenstein pays better than English opera, which closes on May 15.

VANITY VANITATUM.

The vulgar tongue is not properly appreciated in England, notwithstanding its great successes on the operatic stage. Earl Dudley will not permit the language of his native land to be sung in his salons, and for this reason there are some people who are so critical as to assert that he is guilty of unbecoming vanity. Lord Alfred Paget, however, does not agree with his distinguished countryman. He enjoys the vernacular as much as ever in the Alhambra, where Strauss' "Fledermaus" is mutilated and murdered nightly. I went last night, hoping to enjoy Strauss' delightful melodies, but I was disgusted and surprised to find that a certain Hamilton Clarke's unmusical and meaningless composition was substituted for the original melody in the drunken scene. As if this were not enough, the third act was entirely omitted. But then the class of musical entertainers who frequent this Leicester square establishment is easily satisfied.

OPRATIC GROSS.

Mr. Mapleson intends to charge twenty-eight shillings (\$7) for stalls during the coming season at Drury Lane.

Mr. Gye's Italian opera at Covent Garden has been well attended.

The new tenor, Gayarre, has been warmly welcomed.

Mme. Ricca makes her debut in "Favorita," at Covent Garden, on Monday night.

Albani has gone to Munich for two weeks' further study of the part of Santa in "The Flying Dutchman."

Reeves, the publisher, is to bring out the English version of Robert Schumann's work, "Music and Musicians."

RIP NOT ASLEEP.

"Rip Van Winkle" is as popular as ever, and Jefferson stands to-day at the front of the London stage.

THE PRESS AND THE STAGE.

The Academy discourages the notion of placing a bust or statue of John Oxenford in the vestibule of Drury Lane, and thinks Drury Lane has lost its former representative character. The Academy asks "What great services has Oxenford performed that he should have statues and memorial windows to his memory?"

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Dublin Freeman's Journal for some strictures made on him by the latter in his published correspondence, and Callan wound up by calling the correspondent "a drunken harp," and striking him. The correspondent applied in the police court for a summons, but the case was dismissed on the ground that the Parliament House is a private place.

TREATMENT OF IRISH PRISONERS.

The origin of all this trouble seems to be a sharp debate on the Prison bill, which has in a limited sense opened up the Fenian question once more. A bill was lately presented to the House of Commons empowering the government to take control of all county prisons, which at present are altogether managed by local boards. In its progress through the House it was proposed that the Secretary of State should make rules determining the discipline of the prisons and the treatment of the prisoners. Suddenly, the Irish members began to show great interest in the measure. A. M. Sullivan, late editor of the *Dublin Nation*, had been in prison in 1868 on account of "seditious writing." W. H. O'Sullivan, M. P. for Limerick County, had been confined in 1867-68 in Mountjoy convict establishment, Dublin, under a warrant from the Lord Lieutenant, issued by virtue of the Habeas Corpus Suspension act. Both members described to the House of Commons their own personal sufferings in the case of Mr. O'Sullivan the inference was made irresistible that if men confined merely for precaution and not arrested under any criminal charge were so cruelly treated, what may not be the hardships of convicts who have been tried, sentenced, and are actually undergoing penal servitude for the political offence of membership of the Fenian Brotherhood. It was clear that the statements so often reiterated by O'Donovan Rossa, John O'Leary, Kichinham, and quite lately by Sergeant McCarthy, were most likely to be true.

PHILISTINE IN PARLIAMENT.

The House of Commons was much moved by what it heard of the personal experiences of its own members. The Irish members thought hard that the rules before coming into force should receive the formal approval of the House, but were beaten. The majority of them submitted; but Parnell and Biggar, aided by two or three others exhausted the forms of the House in endeavoring to wrest from weariness a concession which could not be wrung from a sense of justice. During the discussion Mr. Parnell gave an account of the sufferings of Daniel Redding, convicted for the Manchester rescue, in 1864, who has been rendered a paralytic cripple for life through his prison discipline. Parnell and his friends were announced as mere obstructionists, because they brought on motion after motion in order to prevent progress, hoping to tire out the government into concession.

STRONG MEDICAL TESTIMONY.

Suddenly a marvelous contribution was made to the cause for which the Irish members were battling in the shape of a letter in the *London Times* from Dr. Robert McDonnell, who was medical superintendent of Mountjoy Prison during the whole Fenian period. He says that many persons were confined in Mountjoy in 1867 on mere suspicion. They were confined for several months, in some cases over a year and a half, and were never tried.

"It will appear almost incredible," he says, "that untried prisoners of this class were treated with severity equal to that to which convicts are submitted, and this not for a few days or weeks, but for six, eight, twelve months and even more." He quotes from a report addressed by him to the Irish government in February, 1867. In it he says that the men thus treated—

"have become greatly altered in their appearance since their arrival here. Although they have no tangible disease, yet any one can perceive that they are emaciated and worn-looking. Some have shown unmistakable signs of mental alienation. Blinders of this kind give life, vigor and energy to the worst of human beings. England, which at this moment, pervades every Irish political movement."

SULLIVAN AND KENEALY AT LIMERICK PRISONS.

Another scene occurred last Wednesday in consequence of Mr. A. M. Sullivan making a bitter attack upon Dr. Kenealy during the newspaper debate and insinuating that the editor of the *Irishman* was a "coward, a slave and a wretch." Kenealy retorted by calling Sullivan a liar in the lobby, for which he was compelled by the House to make a public apology. The last member of Parliament who was obliged to make a public apology was Fergus O'Connor, the famous Chartist leader, who had struck a member of the government in 1842.

THE FENIAN PRISONERS.

O'Connor Power is agitating for the release of the remaining Fenian prisoners. There were 15,000 prisoners released in India on the proclamation of Victoria as Empress, and it is urged by the friends of the Irish prisoners that this would have been a fitting opportunity for the exercise of clemency in Ireland. Mr. Power denies the statement that he intends to resign his seat in Parliament.

OUR NEXT GERMAN MINISTER.

The *Herald's* Berlin correspondent states that the *Kreuz Zeitung* announces that Senator Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, has been designated as Minister to Germany.

AN OFFICIAL SKIRREL.

Consul Thomas T. Prentiss, who has been forgotten by the United States Government for five years at Malte, Seychelle Islands, sailed for New York in the *Halte* on Thursday last.

HERALD DAILY WEATHER OBSERVATIONS IN ENGLAND.

The following observations have been taken daily during the past week at Holyhead and Plymouth for the *HERALD*. The pressure has continued below the mean, but exhibits a recovery toward the end of the week. This is, however, only a temporary rise, the indication being that evening at present. There has been a slight variation of temperature during the week. The weather in London on Thursday and Friday has been fair.

THE RATE OF GOLD PREMIUM TO BE FIXED DAILY BY A GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

HAVANA, April 14, 1877.

A decree has been issued ordering the daily sale of gold entering the Treasury, of a premium against paper money, to be daily fixed by a committee nominated by the government.

"Contributions from those parts of the island where almost no paper is circulating will henceforth be payable in paper. This decree is expected to produce a better circulation and distribution of gold over the island and prevent fluctuations of paper. Gold is rapidly declining.

ARCHBISHOP BAYLEY.

HE ASKS THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS TRIP TO EUROPE FOR HIS HEALTH.

BUENOS AIRES, April 14, 1877.

The *Catholic Mirror* this week contains a circular of Archbishop Bayley, dated Easter Monday, 1877, and addressed to the clergy and laity of the archdiocese of Baltimore, in regard to his departure for Europe. The Archbishop says:—"After having battled against my sickness the whole winter without much improvement, I have determined, by the advice of my physicians, to try, if I please God, to restore to me my health. I will come back as soon as possible; mean while I commend myself to the prayers of the reverend clergy, the pious communities and the faithful people of my diocese."

THE VIENNA COMET.

POCONGNEUR, N. Y., April 14, 1877.

Miss C. Harrison, of Vassar College, reports the discovery of the Vienna Comet in the constellation Pegasus.

PARIS PREMONITIONS.

A General Belief That France Will Be Drawn Into War.

BISMARCK'S IRRITATING POWER.

The Kind of American Minister the "Colony" Wants.

TALLEYRAND'S CONVERSION.

Oakey Hall in Paris—An American Honored.

Gounod Plagiarizing—Operatic Jottings—Art and Fashion.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

HERALD BUREAU, 61 AVENUE DE L'OPERA, PARIS, April 14, 1877.

The public mind is excited to the highest pitch concerning the crisis on the Eastern question.

The funds are tumbling on the Bourse and the timid trembling, but all are preparing themselves for a general European convulsion. The belief is universal that France, in spite of all her desires to the contrary, will be drawn into the vast war conflict which is now preparing on the European stage, the curtain of which, in the nervous language of Victor Hugo, is "trembling before its rise." It is curious and instructive to note how the French take the warlike possibility of the situation as applied to France. As the conflict to come was viewed a few weeks ago—indeed, not a fortnight back—there was a general exchange of comforting assurances that France could exempt herself from participation, and even profit materially by holding aloof. There is really no good ground for changing this view; but where a house takes fire at night and the flames stand out menacingly against the dark sky, the people in the neighboring houses are not likely to think the chances of their houses escaping as great as if they were talking on the matter to an insurance agent, and the fire next door only suppositions. Under the cynicism of the French character, as developed in the more cultured classes, there is a deep layer of passion, and a stroll along the boulevards this afternoon disclosed more earnest faces than have been seen here since the battles of Worth and Gravelotte gave the first rude shock to the easy air of confidence which M. Olivier with his "light heart" speech had inspired.

A TERRIBLE LESSON.

We have had more sad and terrible days in Paris since, but the first breath of the chance of war today has the same effect as the first reverses of the disastrous campaign of 1870. Not that the *fortune* has lost its effect, not that the dream of the *revenge* is nursed in the brain less ardently, but the rude lesson that France has learned of her shortcomings gives Frenchmen pause. The spectre of Germany at her gates will always remain a terrible one for France. When Bismarck's retirement is nervously grasped as something boding ill to the nation whose humiliation he brought about, it shows that the dread of a recurrence of Sedan has not been removed by the magnificent success of army reconstruction of which the country saw the first fruits last autumn. To do anything effective against a great foreign Power, France needs more time.

THE POSSIBILITIES.

"You see," said a thoughtful young officer of the line to-day, "what Russia has done to Turkey, humiliating as it is to confess, Germany may do to us. Our Statesmen have been very zealous to prevent all that Germany could complain of as a menace; but as Russia played with Turkey, always finding means to keep the latter in a condition of perpetual endeavor to meet impossible requirements, so Bismarck, or his puppets, can irritate France until war would be a relief, no matter what the consequences might be."

"But in a general European conflagration France would not be left alone," I suggested.

"That the future must determine; but, *ad hoc*, I should prefer France to beat Germany single-handed. *Enfin*," he added, gayly, "the Prussians will remember that *les fots sont changeants*."

To allay all this troubled speculation the *Montreuil* announces that France will remain inflexibly neutral.

WHY TURKEY IS NOT AFRAID.

The defiant attitude of Turkey is explained in private letters from Constantinople. The Ottomans are rendered confident by assurances that Poland, the Crimea, the Caucasus, Persia and even India will furnish moral and material aid against Russia in the course of the impending war.

A TALLEYRAND INDEED.

The Marquis de Talleyrand's conversion to republicanism irritates all his monarchical friends, who forget the traditional policy of the Talleyrand family. The legitimist journals maliciously suggest that it is because the Marquis has an American wife; but they had better be careful, for the Marquis is very touchy and is a redoubtable swordsman and a dead shot. The critics need not go so far as America. The course of the famous Bishop, red republican, imperial Chamberlain and monarchical diplomat, whose sayings are the gospel of consistent inconsistency.

WANTED—A PLUTOCRAT.

The Americans here are anxious to know who will be the successor of Minister Washburne. What they want, above all things, is a man rich enough to dine and wine the colony.

AN AMERICAN HONORED.

The Czar has conferred on Mr. G. R. Champney, of Boston, the order of St. Stanislaus, in testimony of his satisfaction at Mr. Champney's improvements in diet, coinage and gun work. These improvements involve an immense revolution in existing systems of coinage and render the present minting arrangements useless. The patents for these improvements have been sold to Austria, Germany, Italy and Belgium.

Oakey Hall in Paris.

It was rumored yesterday that ex-Mayor A. Oakey Hall had been seen in Paris. He is not spoken of as being particularly depressed in appearance. On the contrary, he is said to have recovered his good spirits, and is only reserved in manner when addressed by his own name, which he still affects to ignore.

ALBANI'S BENEFIT.

The benefit of Mlle. Albani at the Italiens on

Tuesday last was a bumper, the receipts being the largest of the season. The engagement on the whole has not been profitable; the average nightly receipts were \$1,000, while the expenses were \$1,500.

GOUNOD'S PLAGIARISM.

The musicians are down upon Gounod's latest opera, "Cinq Mars," and accuse him of wholesale plagiarism. The minut in the second act is a literal transcript of Mozart's in "Don Giovanni." The dance music bears a close resemblance to the sailors' chorus in "Paul et Virginie." The fanfare in the third act is identical with that in Mehul's opera comique, "Jeune Henri." Some portions of the instrumentation are superb, and others mediocre.

MASSENET'S OPERA.

M. Massenet's new opera, "Le Roi de Lahore," is definitely fixed, will have its first public presentation on the 20th inst.

MUSICAL JOTTINGS.

Mme. Frezzoloni sang at her own concert the other night. Alas! her voice was only a mere thread of the beautiful organ which once delighted the musical world.

Miss Laura Harris makes her debut on Tuesday at the Italiens.

Stanfield's debut was a